

POPPRO

10¢

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of the POPCORN THEATRE

VOL.1 NO.10

SHUSH, BUMPY,
IT'S PART OF
THE ACT!
THE TABLES
ARE **SUPPOSED**
TO TOPPLE
OVER!

ONTO
YOUR
HEAD?



CHARLES
BIRO



WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM



POPPO—THE CLOWN—WHO "CAN'T HELP LIKING KIDS", HAS TRAVELED THE WORLD OVER PHOTOGRAPHING HIS ADVENTURES—THE GREAT ACTS THAT PLAYED ON THE SAME BILL—AND COLLECTING PRINTS OF THE CARTOONS AND COMEDIES THAT HE ENJOYED. BORN TO THE CIRCUS, AND THE JOY OF MAKING OTHERS LAUGH, HIDING HIS OWN SORROWS SO OTHERS MAY BE HAPPY, HE IS THE CLOWN OF ALL AGES—FOR ALL AGES. NOW HE HAS RETIRED FROM THE CIRCUS, BUT STILL FINDS HIS REWARDS IN LIFE MAKING OTHERS LAUGH.

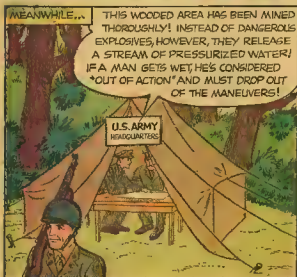


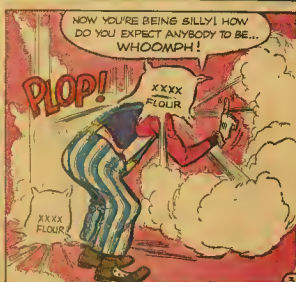
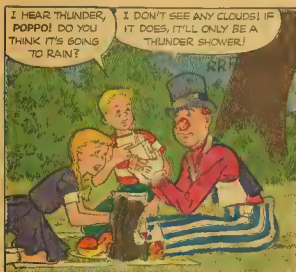
POPPO the CLOWN

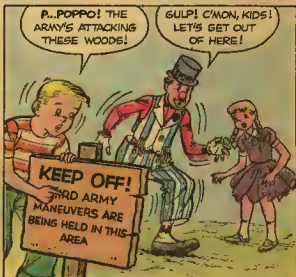
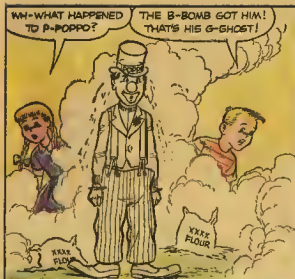
in
★GENERAL
NUISANCE★

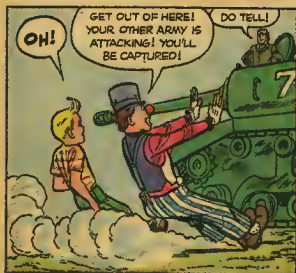
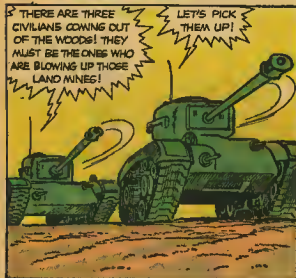
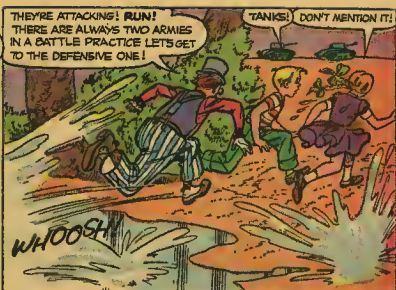
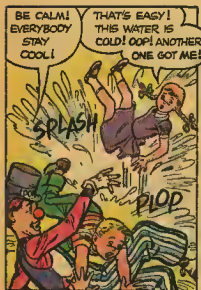
BUMPY!
LOOK AT POPPO!
HE'S ALREADY
BECOME A
GHOST!

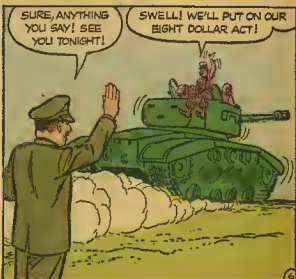












POPPO

"THE FENDER BENDER"

BOY, IT SURE IS
GOING TO BE
FUN TO PUT ON
A SHOW FOR A
WHOLE ARMY!

YOU BET! IF THERE'S ANYTHING I
LIKE BETTER THAN A SMALL
AUDIENCE, IT'S A BIG AUDIENCE!

HERE'S
THE BUS!



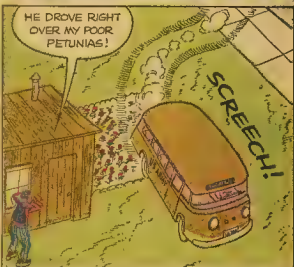
GOSH, THAT
DRIVER ALMOST
KNOCKED THAT
POLE
OVER!

CRACK!

THAT BUS STILL HASN'T
MADE UP ITS MIND. BETTER
GET BACK, KIDS!



HE DROVE RIGHT
OVER MY POOR
PETUNIAS!



SCREECH!

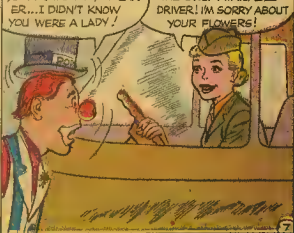
REALLY! THAT WAS
PRETTY CARELESS
DRIVING! WHAT KIND
OF A GOOF
ARE YOU?

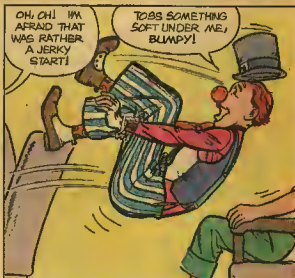
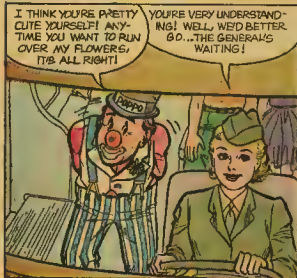
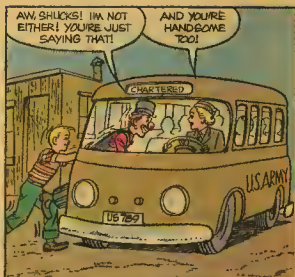
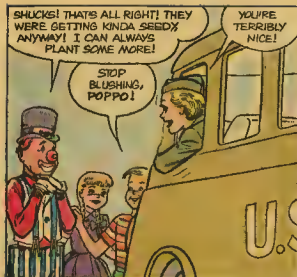
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY!
I'M AFRAID I'M NOT
VERY USED TO
DRIVING A BUS!

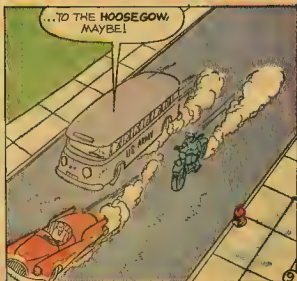
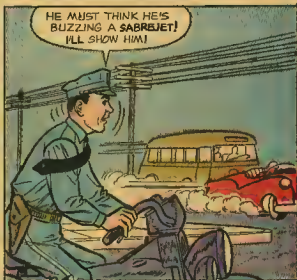
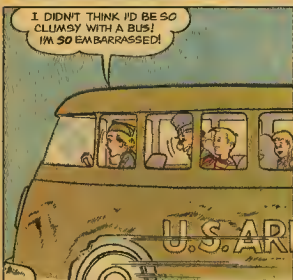
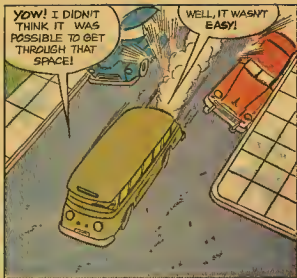
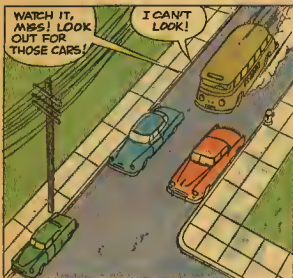


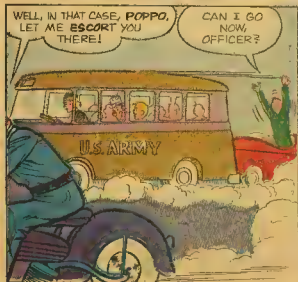
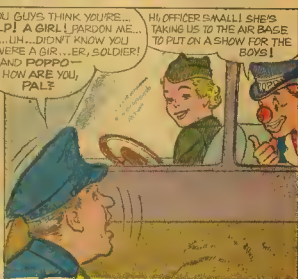
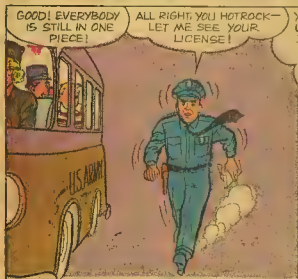
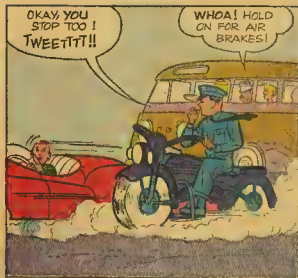
THAT'S NO EXCUSE! YOU
SHOULD HAVE LEARNED
BEFORE...BEFORE...
GULP! THAT IS, I MEAN
ER...I DIDN'T KNOW
YOU WERE A LADY!

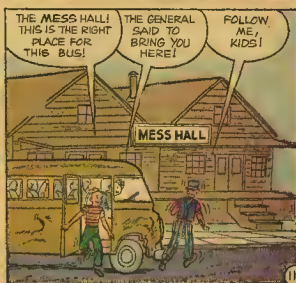
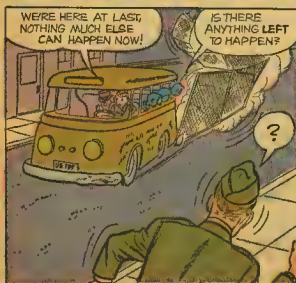
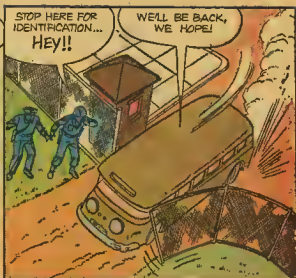
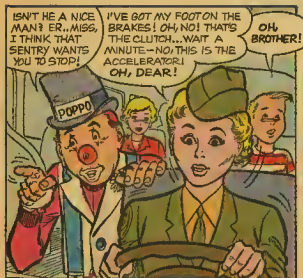
THE GENERAL ASKED THE
SPECIAL SERVICES TO
SEND A BUS, AND I WAS
THE ONLY AVAILABLE
DRIVER! I'M SORRY ABOUT
YOUR FLOWERS!





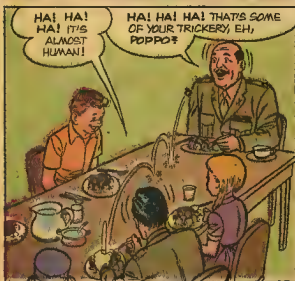
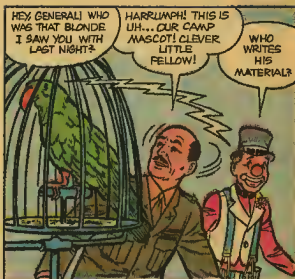
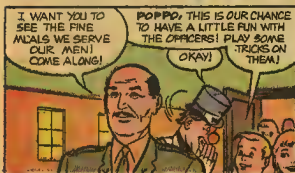


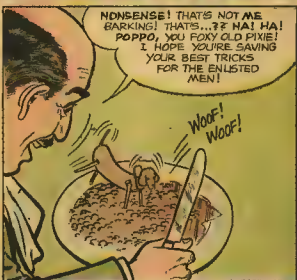
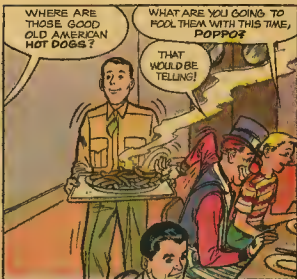
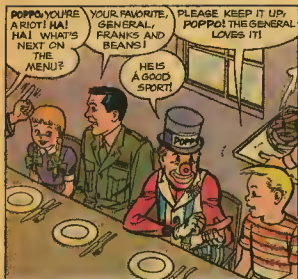


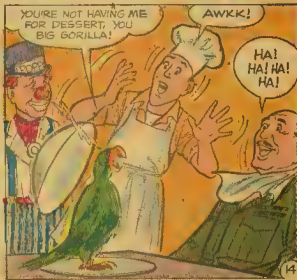
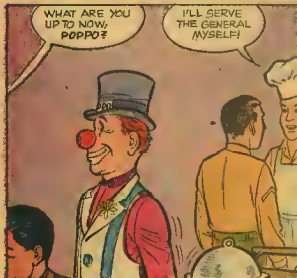
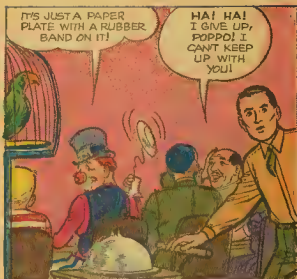


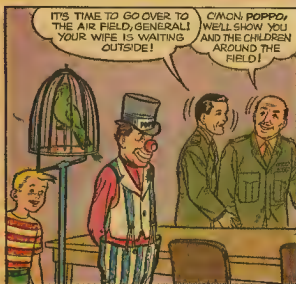
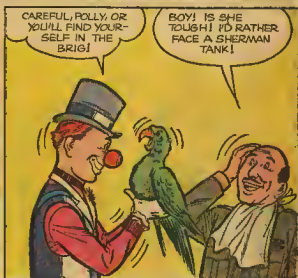
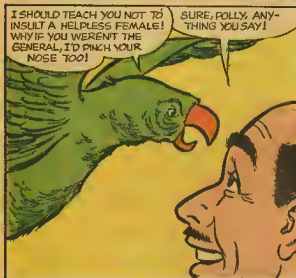
POPPO

'GETTING THE BIRD'









POPPO

"ALL UP IN THE AIR"

WE'VE GOT AN HOUR BEFORE THE SHOW! WOULD YOU LIKE TO EXAMINE SOME OF OUR NEW PLANES?

BOY! WOULD WE!



THIS WAY POPPO!

I'M TAKING A SHORT CUT!



NO, POPPO! WATCH OUT! YOU'LL FALL OFF!

EH, WHAT'S THAT? CAN'T HEAR A THING OVER THESE ENGINES! SAY, THIS IS QUITE A NICE FIELD YOU'VE GOT HERE, GENERAL! GROUND'S NICE AND SOFT...I CAN HARDLY FEEL IT!



IS THERE A PARACHUTE IN THE HOUSE?

GET AN AMBULANCE!

WE'VE SEEN POPPO DO THAT PRAT FALL BEFORE! HE'S FOOLED THE GENERAL, THOUGH!



THIS HARD GROUND IS UNFAIR TO FALLING BODIES!

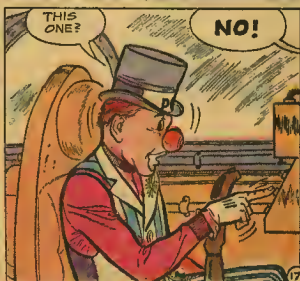
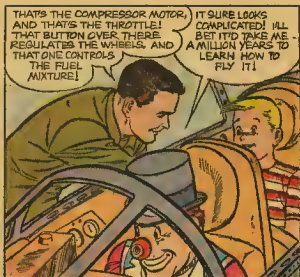
HE MUST BE HURT! WHY DID THIS HAVE TO HAPPEN TO ME? GET FIRST AID! RED CROSS! HURRY!

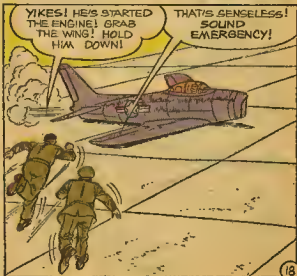
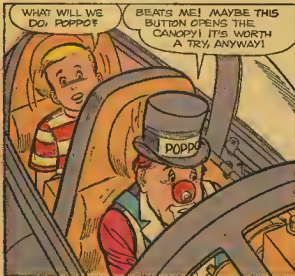
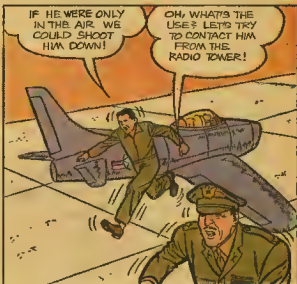
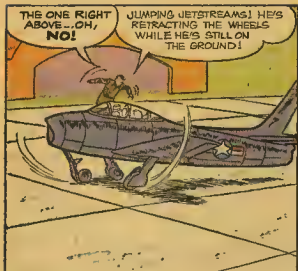


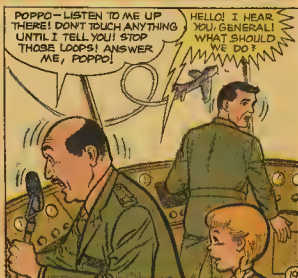
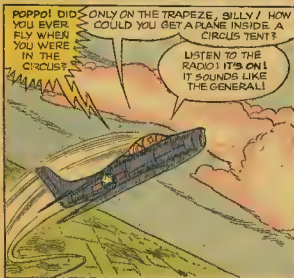
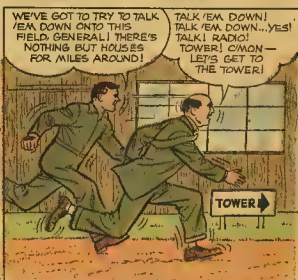
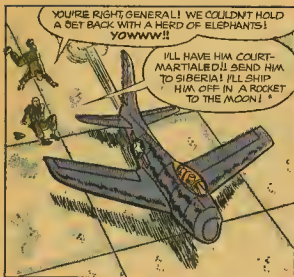
SURE! BEFORE I WAS HURT, I COULD DO TRICKS LIKE THIS!

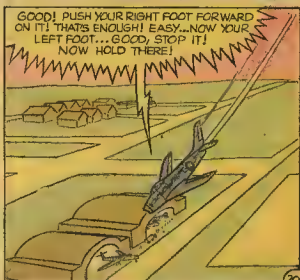
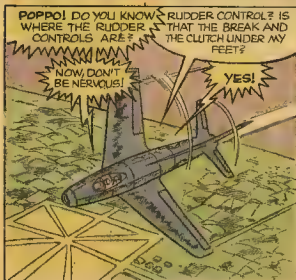
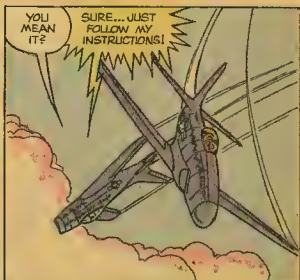
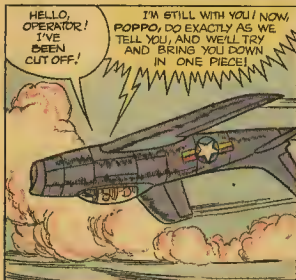
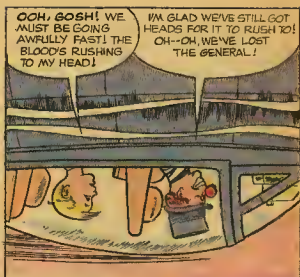
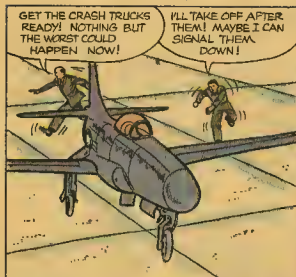
HA! HA! OKAY, POPPO, YOU FOOLED ME AGAIN!

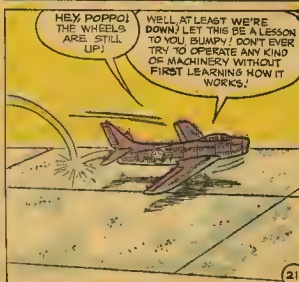
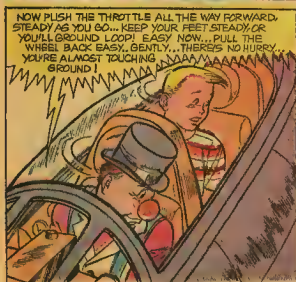
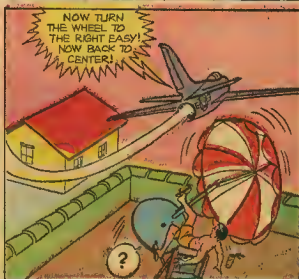
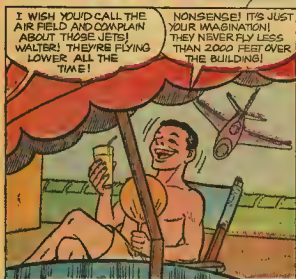
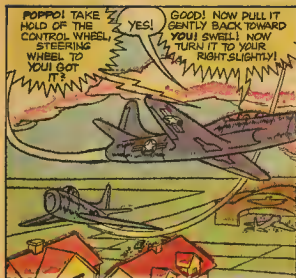


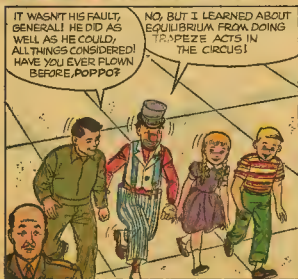
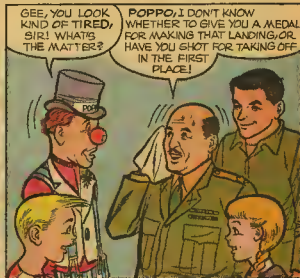
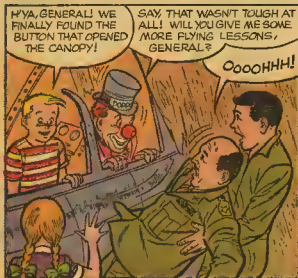
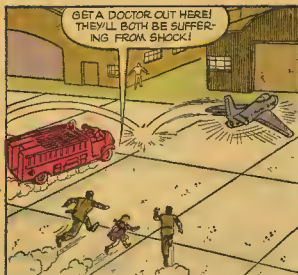






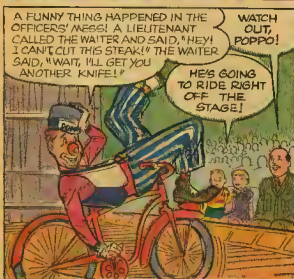
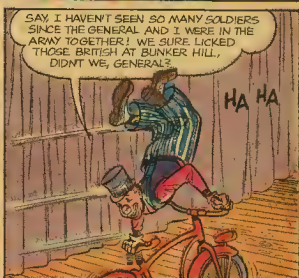
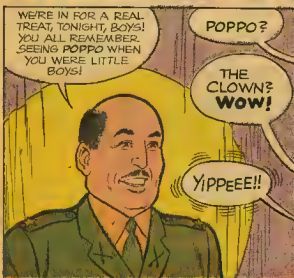
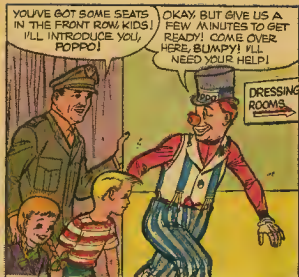


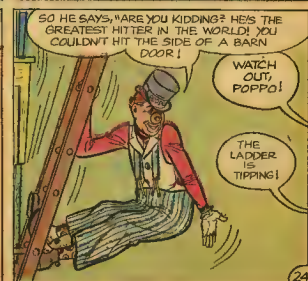
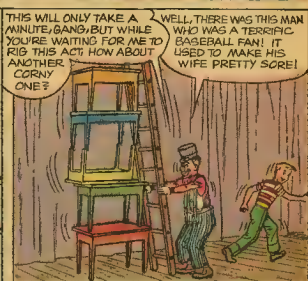
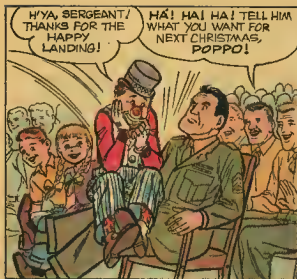




POPPO

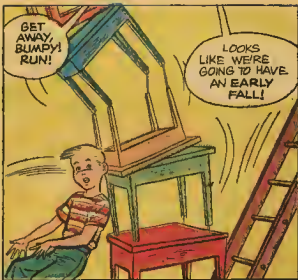
"IT WAS IN THE ACT"





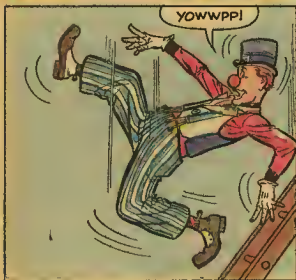


WHEW! LIKE THE MAN SAID AFTER HE STOOD UP IN A HELICOPTER, THAT WAS A CLOSE SHAVE!



GET AWAY, BUMPY! RUN!

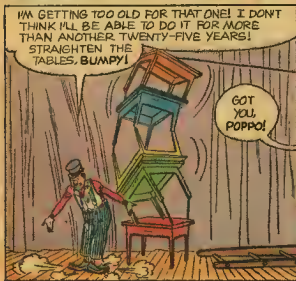
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GOING TO HAVE AN EARLY FALL!



YOWWPP!



WHO DRAINED THE WATER FROM THE SWIMMING POOL?



I'M GETTING TOO OLD FOR THAT ONE! I DON'T THINK I'LL BE ABLE TO DO IT FOR MORE THAN ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE YEARS! STRAIGHTEN THE TABLES, BUMPY!

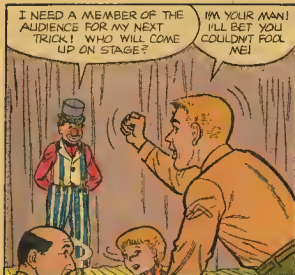
GOT YOU, POPPO!

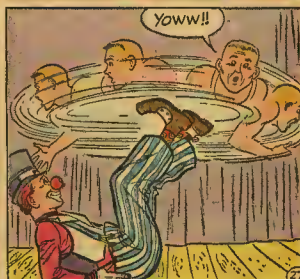
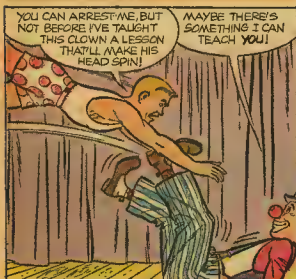
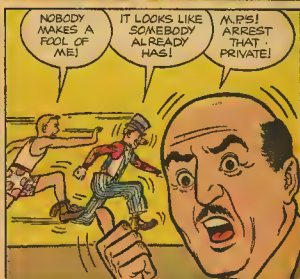
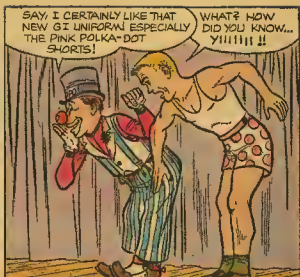


THANKS A LOT, BUMPY! YOU'RE THE BEST TABLE HOPPER I EVER SAW!

YOU SEE, THE TABLES ARE ALL HELD TOGETHER WITH STRIPS OF HEAVY RUBBER! BY PULLING THE WIRE, BUMPY STRAIGHTENED THEM OUT INTO THEIR NORMAL POSITION!

H'RAY! WHAT AN ACT!





LATER, OFF STAGE...

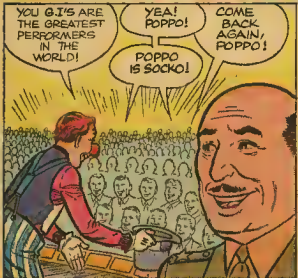
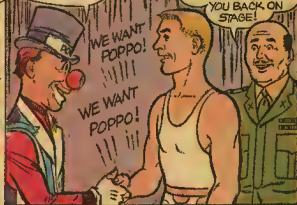
IT'LL BE A COURT MARTIAL FOR YOU, PRIVATE! I ASKED POPPO TO COME HERE AS AN ENTERTAINER! YOU VOLUNTEERED TO GO ON STAGE! YOU'RE THE WORST SPORT I EVER SAW!

JUST A MINUTE, GENERAL! YOU'LL HAVE TO TREAT MY STOOGIE NICER THAN THAT!

WE SURE HAD 'EM BELIEVING IT! THAT WAS A REAL PROFESSIONAL JOB OF BEING BEEFED!

IT WAS A LOT OF FUN, POPPO! AT LEAST WE'RE SURE OF HAVING FOOLED THE GENERAL!

WELL, I'LL BE... POPPO THEY WANT YOU BACK ON STAGE!



YOU G.I.'S ARE THE GREATEST PERFORMERS IN THE WORLD!

YEA! POPPO!

COME BACK AGAIN, POPPO!

POPPO IS SOCKO!



SAY, GENERAL, I WONDER IF WE COULD DRIVE BACK IN A STAFF CAR? THAT BUS RIDE WAS A LITTLE RUGGED!

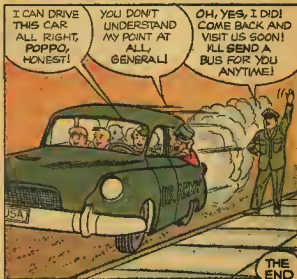
WHY, YES, POPPO! EVERYTHING IS ALL ARRANGED! STEP THIS WAY!



THANKS, GENERAL! WE...I... YIIIIII!

NELLOOO, POPPO!

HEH! HEN! REVENGE AT LAST!



I CAN DRIVE THIS CAR ALL RIGHT, POPPO, HONEST!

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND MY POINT AT ALL, GENERAL!

OH, YES, I DID! COME BACK AND VISIT US SOON! I'LL SEND A BUS FOR YOU ANYTIME!

THE END



READY! LET'S GO!
HERE'S ONE YOU'LL BE
CRAZY ABOUT!
FIRST TURN A
GLASS UPSIDE
DOWN ON A
PLATE!

THEN TAKE A
HOLLOW PAPER
TUBE! I'LL DROP A
PENCIL THROUGH
IT! SEE? HOLLOW!

NOW SLIDE
THE TUBE OVER
THE GLASS...

...AND DROP
IN A HALF
DOLLAR!



WELL,
WE LIFT OFF
THE PAPER
TUBE... HEY!
WHERE'S
MY HALF
DOLLAR?

OH, THERE
IT IS, ON THE
TABLE! IT
WENT RIGHT
THROUGH
THE GLASS
AND THE
PLATE!

NOW, HOW
DID THAT
HAPPEN?



THIS IS HOW IT
HAPPENED! TO BEGIN, POPPO HAD
HIDDEN A DUPLICATE HALF
DOLLAR UNDER THE PLATE. THE
INNOCENT-LOOKING PAPER TUBE
HAS A PAPER PARTITION PASTED
IN ITS CENTER. THERE'S A HOLE
IN THIS PARTITION THROUGH WHICH
THE PENCIL FALLS. BUT IT'S TOO
SMALL FOR THE HALF-DOLLAR.
WHEN THE PAPER TUBE IS PUSHED
DOWN OVER THE UPSIDE-DOWN
GLASS, THE PARTITION FITS
SNUGLY AGAINST THE GLASS'S
BOTTOM, SO THAT THE COIN IS
HEARD TO HIT THE GLASS. WHEN THE TUBE
IS REMOVED THE COIN GOES WITH IT.



I KNOW THIS ISN'T MY COAT,
BUT FOR THIS TRICK I
NEED LOOSE SLEEVES!
WANT TO KNOW
WHY?

SO I CAN DROP A NICKEL
DOWN THERE! THAT'S WHY!

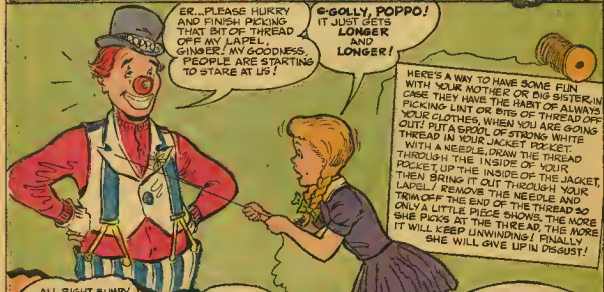
...AND PULL THE
NICKEL
THROUGH
MY
ELBOW!



HOW DID
POPPO DO
THAT?

AGAIN, POPPO USES
TWO COINS. HE HAD
HIDDEN THE SECOND
ONE BY WEDGING IT
BETWEEN THE BUTTONS
AT THE CUFF
OF HIS SLEEVE!
AFTER
DROPPING
THE FIRST
COIN... HIS
RIGHT
HAND
SIMPLY
SLIDES...
THE
HIDDEN
COIN
DOWN TO
HIS ELBOW!





ER...PLEASE HURRY
AND FINISH PICKING
THAT BIT OF THREAD
OFF MY LAPEL,
GINGER! MY GOODNESS,
PEOPLE ARE STARTING
TO STARE AT US!

G-GOLLY, POPPO!
IT JUST GETS
LONGER
AND
LONGER!

HERE'S A WAY TO HAVE SOME FUN
WITH YOUR MOTHER OR BIG SISTER, IN
CASE THEY HAVE THE HABIT OF ALWAYS
PICKING LINT OR BITS OF THREAD OFF
YOUR CLOTHES, WHEN YOU ARE GOING
OUT! PUT A SPOOL OF STRONG WHITE
THREAD IN YOUR JACKET POCKET.
WITH A NEEDLE, DRAW THE THREAD
THROUGH THE INSIDE OF YOUR
POCKET, UP THE INSIDE OF YOUR
JACKET, THEN BRING IT OUT THROUGH YOUR
LAPEL! REMOVE THE NEEDLE AND
TRIM OFF THE END OF THE THREAD SO
ONLY A LITTLE PIECE SHOWS. THE MORE
SHE PICKS AT THE THREAD, THE MORE
IT WILL KEEP UNWINDING! FINALLY
SHE WILL GIVE UP IN DISGUST!



ALL RIGHT, BUMPY,
YOU'RE STANDING
WITH YOUR BACK TO
THE WALL! RIGHT
AT YOUR FEET IS A
DOLLAR BILL! IF YOU
CAN PICK IT UP, IT'S
YOURS!

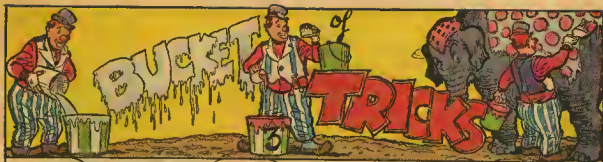
BUT! YOU
MUSTN'T BEND
YOUR KNEES,
OR MOVE
YOUR FEET!

OKAY, POPPO, THIS
IS WHAT YOU TOLD ME
TO ADD UP! —
THE YEAR I WAS BORN — 1946
YEAR I STARTED SCHOOL — 1951
MY AGE THIS YEAR — 10
YEARS IN SCHOOL SO FAR — 5
AND THAT COMES TO — 3912

NOW WHAT DID YOU WRITE
DOWN WHEN I STARTED
ADDING? GOL-LEE!
HOW DID YOU GET IT
SO FAST?

NOBODY CAN DO THIS WITHOUT LOSING
HIS BALANCE! THEN HE WON'T BE ABLE
TO STRAIGHTEN UP AGAIN!

THE SUM WILL ALWAYS BE TWICE THE NUMBER
OF THE PRESENT YEAR! TWICE 1956 IS 3912!



DID YOU KNOW THAT I CAN STICK A COIN TO MY FOREHEAD, JUST LIKE A MAGNET?

SEE? NOW I'LL TELL YOU HOW!

THIS IS ALL YOU DO. JUST PLACE THE COIN AGAINST YOUR FOREHEAD AND PUSH IT UPWARD ABOUT AN INCH! USE LOTS OF PRESSURE! THE COIN WILL STAY THERE BY ITSELF!

SEE WHAT THIS IS, KIDS? IT'S A PAIR OF DRINKING STRAWS IN A THIN TISSUE PAPER WRAPPING JUST LIKE YOU GET THEM AT THE SODA FOUNTAIN! I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU HOW TO MAKE A FUNNY PAPER SNAKE OUT OF THAT SEALED WRAPPING!

FIRST, BREAK ONE END OF THE COVERING AND SLIDE IT DOWN THE STRAWS, SO IT TELESCOPES INTO ITSELF!

NOW YOU HAVE A SHORT, WRINKLED TUBE, ABOUT TWO INCHES LONG!

WHEN THIS TUBE IS PLACED ON A PLATE, IT BEGINS TO ACT VERY SNAKEY! IT TWISTS, TURNS AND WIGGLES!

WHAT MAKES IT WIGGLE? A FEW DROPS OF WATER ON THE PLATE! WHEN THE PAPER TOUCHES THE WATER, IT COMES TO LIFE!

NOW I'LL TESS THESE TORN UP PIECES OF PAPER INTO MY MOUTH ...

...AND CHEW THEM UP WELL ...

WOW! HEY, LOOK! LOOK!

WHILE PUTTING THE TORN PAPER INTO HIS MOUTH, POPPO ALSO SLIPPED IN A PAPER STREAMER. HE TUCKS THE TORN PAPER INTO HIS CHEEK, AND DRAWS OUT THE STREAMER, PULLING FROM THE CENTER OF THE ROLL!



HERE IS A GLASS FULL OF WATER. POPPO CAN'T TAKE A DRINK FROM IT BECAUSE IT IS COVERED WITH THIN PAPER STRIPS!



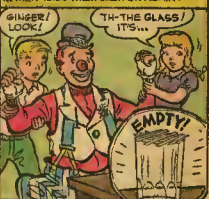
AND TO MAKE IT EVEN HARDER, BUMPY AND GINGER HOLD HIS HANDS!



THEY TURN THE LIGHTS OUT BRIEFLY



...THEN TURN THEM BACK ON AGAIN!



POPPO HAD A STRAW IN HIS VEST POCKET. HE REACHED IT BY BENDING HIS HEAD FORWARD, LEANED OVER, DRANK THE WATER THROUGH THE STRAW, DROPPED THE STRAW ON THE FLOOR AND CALLED FOR THE LIGHTS!

NOW I'VE GOT ONE FOR YOU, POPPO! WRITE ANYTHING YOU LIKE ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND FOLD IT UP!



RIGHT! NOW WHAT?

NOW PUT IT ON THE FLOOR AND PUT YOUR FOOT ON IT!



LIKE THIS?

YEP! NOW I'LL TELL YOU WHAT'S ON THAT PAPER!



YOU WILL? OKAY, PAL! WHAT'S ON IT?

YOUR FOOT!



BY GEORGE! THE BOY'S RIGHT!

BUMPY, BOY, NOW THAT YOU'RE A BUDDING 'MAGICIAN', I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU A GOOD EXIT STUNT! TAKE MY MAGICIAN'S WAND!



NOW CATCH THIS SILK CLOTH ON THE TIP AND WHIRL IT!



GEE! WON'T IT FALL OFF?

NOPE! NOW CATCH THIS ONE!... AND THIS ONE!



NOW KEEP 'EM WHIRLING AND MAKE YOUR EXIT!



SO LONG, EVERYBODY!

BUMPY'S "JUGGLING SKILL" CONSISTS OF A SMALL NEEDLE POINT AT THE END OF POPPO'S WAND WHICH CATCHES THE CLOTH AND ACTS AS A PIVOT!

**MAKE
THIS TEST
with a POPPO
funnybook!**



AFTER ENJOYING A STORY,
SEE HOW VERY EASY IT IS
TO REMEMBER ALL THE FUN
OF IT, EVEN MONTHS LATER.

POPPO LEAVES HIS
JOYOUS GOODNESS DEEP
IN EVERY READER'S HEART
FOREVER.

YES, IT'S TRUE THAT

A TRUE *POPPO* FAN NEVER
MISSES AN ISSUE BECAUSE
HE'S HAD HIS *Reserved!*

KIDS!

See and hear me every week

ON T.V.

Tune in

Poppo

"THE POPCORN THEATRE"

a full hour of fun with POPPO, cartoons,
comedies and adventure!

